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TOWN OF DORCHESTER

ANNUAL REPORT
2002



Dorchester Town Hall
2002



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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE OFFICERS



**OF THE TOWN OF
DORCHESTER, N.H.**



**Year Ended
December 31, 2002**

Selectmen's Report

The Dorchester Board of Selectmen bid a fond farewell to Andrew Houghton, who decided not to seek another term as Dorchester Selectman, in order to spend more time with his growing family. "Andy" served tirelessly as Selectman at a time when Dorchester needed his architectural expertise, calm demeanor and good "old fashion Yankee common sense". The Town of Dorchester elected Albert "John" Franz to fill the vacancy on the Board of Selectmen in March. The Town as well as the Board of Selectmen are very fortunate that "John" was willing to serve as Selectman again, having served on the Dorchester Board of Selectmen for several terms during the 1980s. Although, John will be the first to admit that the duties and responsibilities of a Selectman have double since the 1980s, his "no nonsense" approach to problem solving and willingness to explore new avenues has resulted in better services, accountability and tax dollar value for the citizens of Dorchester.

The Board of Selectmen have been forced, out of necessity, to wear many hats this year. With new federal and state mandates thrust upon local communities, Dorchester's Selectmen have spent countless hours and tax dollars to meet the requirements of these mandates, as well as deal with the day to day problems of the people of Dorchester. The following is a brief overview of the busy and often hectic year of 2002.

- * The final phase of the replacement of Bridge #132/166, with a Class V town road to access several properties, was finalized with the purchase of the land over which the road was built. The new town road, for which we will receive Highway Block Grant Funds as well as 80% of the total cost of the project, will to be known as MELANSON WAY. The highway department added a berm to prevent future flooding. The project will be closed out and reimbursement from the state should be forth coming in 2003.
- * As a direct result of the State Property Tax, all New Hampshire municipalities will undergo a "Certification" process. Dorchester is scheduled to be certified in the year 2004. The certification requires a complete and intense review of every aspect of Town government. The state certification team has been meeting every 3 months with the Selectmen to check on progress. This year the Selectmen have continued to work on the tax map, and review and update elderly and veterans' exemptions.
- * Perhaps, one of the biggest undertakings of the Certification process has been that of updating Current Use records. Nearly 97%

of Dorchester property is held in Current Use, resulting in the majority of property taxes being paid by those who own buildings, the impact of this update should improve the equalization of the tax base. Many of these properties have not been reviewed since the inception of Current Use during the 1980s, this is a huge job. The Town is very fortunate to have former Selectman David Morrill, who is qualified and comes highly recommended by the State, to complete this task. He has completed approximately one-half of the current use properties with the goal of completing the review in 2003.

- * The Selectmen reviewed and updated the job description for a Highway Maintainer III as mandated by Town Meeting 2002, as well as developed a policy for the use of Town Vehicles.
- * April brought the beginning of, what would turn out to be a very long and complicated process, disposing of (4) tax lien properties. The ultimate goal of this process is first and foremost to put properties, held by the Town for non-payment of taxes, back on the tax rolls. To date, the Town has disposed of one parcel, with the finalization of paper work left on two parcels, and 1 parcel left in limbo due to defects in the title. Hopefully all will be resolved early in 2003.
- * The Town of Dorchester contracts all services, with the exception of road maintenance, from other towns. Because Dorchester has virtually no control over the cost of these services, the Selectmen are constantly searching for services which will provide the citizens of Dorchester with the most service for their tax dollars. This search requires the Selectmen to negotiate with many towns ranging from Laconia to Lebanon. The negotiations for the dispatching of emergency services (fire and ambulance) reached a pivotal point when Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Association, who dispatches for the Rumney Fire Department, informed the Selectmen that it would no longer be able to dispatch the Rumney Fire Department to Dorchester without Dorchester joining the association. The cost of joining this association would far exceed the contracts of Canaan, Rumney, and Lyme Fire Departments together. The Selectmen began a review of the area covered by each department. It was discovered that Canaan has been covering all of Dorchester and using Rumney as a mutual aid back-up. Although, not yet finalized it appears that Lebanon will be dispatching emergency services until other arrangements can be made. It is important that the citizens of Dorchester use 911, who have assured the Selectmen that emergency personnel will be dispatched!
- * As Selectmen, acting as Health Officers for the town, we were required to respond to several health and safety issues in Dorchester this year. The resolution of these issues required numerous court

appearances and site visitations, and although several issues remain unresolved we are moving towards a satisfactory conclusion.

- * The Selectmen have begun investigating the procurement of limited police service for the Town of Dorchester. At present, Dorchester receives its police coverage from the State Police. With the State Police budget stretched to the maximum and the future not looking much brighter, it would be to Dorchester's benefit to look for coverage from other sources. This search is on-going.
- * The Selectmen have implemented a policy of dealing with complaints against Town employees. As in the past, we appreciate the public's input, but in order to respond appropriately to complaints involving employees of the Town of Dorchester we need accurate unbiased reports. As a result we request that all complaints be put in writing, listing time, place and description of the incident. We continue to encourage the public to attend our biweekly meetings to comment, seek information or to share information with the Board.
- * The Town of Dorchester received a very generous gift from a Dorchester resident in the form of a fire proof safe. A fire proof safe has long been needed for storage of information by the Town Clerk, as well as other town officials and has proved a valuable addition to the Town Office. A set of map files was purchased for the storage of Town maps previously stored unsafely in various locations. The Town Clerk and her Deputy have spent countless hours filing these maps. Thank you!
- * Finally in closing, the Town of Dorchester Hall is now handicapped compliant. With funds appropriated at Town Meeting 2001, and the approval of the Dorchester Historical Commission the access was completed in November 2002.

Plans for 2003 include the completion of many projects. If you are interested in serving in any capacity of public service please contact us. We are in desperate need of representation in the following areas: (1) Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District, (2) Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Planning Commission (3) Animal Control Officer, (4) Cemetery Trustee. We are also looking at a town wide revaluation in early 2004 as required by the State of New Hampshire. This, along with the Current Use update should, correct many of the inequities currently present.

Selectmen's Meetings for 2003



January 2, 16 & 30

February 13 & 27

March 13 & 27

April 10 & 24

May 8 & 22

June 5 & 19

July 3, 17 & 31

August 14 & 28

September 11 & 25

October 9 & 23

November 6 & 20

December 4 & 18

Meetings are held at the Town Office at
6:30 p.m.

Selectmen are generally ready to meet with
the public by 7:00 p.m.

DORCHESTER TOWN OFFICERS - 2002

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Robert R. Estabrook 2004 (C)

Albert John Franz 2005

John A. Cote 2003

MODERATOR

Henry L. Melanson 2003

TOWN TREASURER

Brian A. Howe 2003

Jennifer Grace, Deputy

TOWN CLERK

Brenda Howe 2003

Darlene Oaks, Deputy

TAX COLLECTOR

Delbert G. Pratt 2003

Marilyn Pratt, Deputy

ROAD AGENT

George C. Conkey, II 2005

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER

Vacant

FOREST FIRE WARDEN

Jay Legg

WELFARE DIRECTOR

Alice E. Melanson

TRUSTEES OF TRUST FUNDS

Brenda Howe 2003

Darlene Oaks 2004

Carol Towne 2005

AUDITORS

Martha L. Walker 2003

Cindy Azotea 2003

SUPERVISORS OF CHECKLIST

Marilyn Pratt 2004

Christine Morgan 2005

Darlene Oaks 2006

PLANNING BOARD

David Morrill 2003(C)

Linda Landry 2003

David DeVall 2005

E. James Scott 2004

Darlene Oaks 2004

John A. Cote, Slc. Rep.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

David Morrill (C)

Brian Howe

Stuart Ross

CEMETERY TRUSTEES

Robert Brown 2005

Louis A. Delsart 2003

Vacant

REPRESENTATIVE TO PEMI-BAKER SOLID WASTE DISTRICT
Vacant

REPRESENTATIVE TO UVLS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
Robert R. Estabrook

HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Robert Pon (C)
Darlene Oaks

Christine Morgan
Linda M. Landry

Patricia Franz
Martha Walker

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER

Nadine A. Conkey 2005

REPRESENTATIVES TO MASCOMA HEALTH COUNCIL

Vacant

MEETING TIMES

Board of Selectmen: Every other Thursday, 6:30 p.m.
Phone: 786-9476

Town Clerk: Wednesday, 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Monday, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Fourth Sat. 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Selectmen's Office. Phone 786-9476

Tax Collector: Town Office
Phone: 786-9476

Planning Board: 2nd Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m.
Selectmen's Office Phone 786-9476

Board of Adjustment: As required. Selectmen's Office

Transfer Station: Wednesday 12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m (until 9/8)
Wednesday 12:00 noon - 4:00 p.m (after 9/8)
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Notary Public: Select. Meetings and upon request (523-7119)
Free of charge to Dorchester Residents

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

In any emergency, please call 911

F.A.S.T. Squad **Canaan** **911 - 448-1212**
POLICE: **State Police 1-800-525-5555**
 State Police (F-Troop) 1-271-1170
Grafton County Sheriff's Dept. **1-800-552-0393**

TOWN WARRANT

The State of New Hampshire

To the inhabitants of the Town of Dorchester in the County of Grafton in said state, qualified to vote in Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said Dorchester on Tuesday, the 11th day of March 2003, polls to be open for voting on Article 1 at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and to close not earlier than 7 o'clock in the afternoon, with action on the remaining articles to be taken commencing at 10 o'clock in the forenoon on Saturday, March 15, 2003.

1. To choose by nonpartisan ballot all necessary Town officers for the ensuing year.
2. To see if the Town will vote to approve a raise in the Selectmen's salary from one thousand, five hundred dollars (\$1,500.00) per year to one thousand, eight hundred dollars (\$1,800.00) per year.
3. To see if the Town will vote to approve the establishment of a Conservation Commission to have responsibility for the proper utilization and protection of the Town's natural resources and protection of the Town's watershed resources. A commission shall consist of three (3) members, appointed for terms of one, two or three years, so that the terms of one third of the members will expire each year, and their successor shall be appointed for terms of three years each. The commission is to have the full powers and duties authorized by RSA 36-A.
4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred thirty-six thousand, six hundred twenty dollars (\$236,620.00), to defray Town charges.

5. To act upon any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

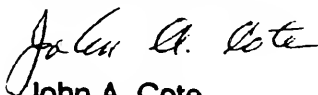
Given under our hands this 13th day of February 2003.



Robert R. Estabrook



Albert John Franz



John A. Cote

Selectmen, Town of Dorchester

DORCHESTER TOWN BUDGET

1	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	'02 APPRO.	'02 EXPENDITURES	OVERSPENT	UNDERSPENT	2003 RECOMMENDED
2	Officers' Salaries	\$13,000.00	\$13,280.85	\$280.85		\$14,500.00
3	Officers' Expenses	\$20,000.00	\$26,415.78	\$6,415.78		\$28,000.00
4	Election & Registration	\$1,000.00	\$1,642.45	\$642.45		\$1,000.00
5	General Govt. Buildings	\$4,000.00	\$9,324.57	\$5,324.57		\$9,000.00
6	Planning & Development	\$400.00	\$932.06			\$400.00
7	Property Appraisal	\$3,000.00	\$2,444.20		\$555.80	\$3,000.00
8	Legal Expenses	\$5,000.00	\$1,376.61		\$3,623.39	\$5,000.00
9	Regional Associations	\$1,000.00	\$595.00		\$405.00	\$1,000.00
10	Town Reports & Mailing	\$1,200.00	\$965.71		\$234.29	\$1,200.00
11	Timber Survey Fund	\$400.00	\$0.00		\$400.00	\$500.00
12	Cemeteries	\$1,400.00	\$1,400.00	-----	-----	\$1,200.00
13	Contingency Fund	\$1,000.00	\$0.00		\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
14						
15	PUBLIC SAFETY					
16	Forest Fire Protection	\$1,000.00	\$198.65		\$801.35	\$500.00
17	Fire Department Contracts	\$16,000.00	\$19,191.70	\$3,191.70		\$16,000.00
18	Police Department	\$100.00	\$0.00		\$100.00	\$1,500.00
19	Animal Control	\$1,000.00	\$1,311.77	\$311.77		\$1,000.00
20	911 & Emergency Mgt.	\$750.00	\$663.61		\$86.39	\$750.00
21						
22	Highways, Streets, Bridges					
23	Town Maintenance	\$120,000.00	\$114,022.99		\$5,977.01	\$95,000.00
24	Highway Block Grant	\$29,346.33	estimated Block Grant Aid for 2003 -	\$31,665.37		
25	TOTAL	\$149,346.33	\$143,369.32			

26		'02 APPRO.	'02 EXPENDITURES	OVERSPENT	UNDERSPENT	2003 RECOMMENDED
27	SANITATION					
28	Solid Waste Disposal	\$18,784.50	\$18,850.17	\$65.67		\$21,000.00
29	PBSW & NHRRA /Dues	\$385.28	\$451.70	\$66.42		\$500.00
30						
31	HEALTH					
32	Canaan F.A.S.T. Squad	\$3,500.00	\$3,500.00			\$3,500.00
33	VN & NH Visiting Nurses	\$1,420.00	\$1,420.00	-----		\$1,500.00
34	Voices Against Violence	\$340.00	\$340.00	-----		\$350.00
35	Sr. Citizens Council	\$600.00	\$600.00	-----		\$620.00
36	Plymouth Reg. Clinic	\$300.00	\$300.00	-----		\$0.00
37	Health Officers	\$0.00	\$248.73	\$248.73		\$400.00
38						
39	WELFARE					
40	General Assistance	\$5,000.00	\$2,334.02		\$2,665.98	\$3,000.00
41	(Includes CAP, West Central Services, Welfare Directors Salary and Expenses)					
42						
43	DEBT SERVICE					
44	Interest TA Loan	\$2,000.00	\$570.57		\$1,429.43	\$5,000.00
45						
46	MISCELLANEOUS					
47	Insurance	\$13,550.00	\$15,538.76	\$1,988.76		\$18,200.00
48	Tax Refunds	\$1,500.00	\$119.00		\$1,381.00	\$2,000.00
49	TOTALS	\$237,629.78	\$238,038.90	TOTAL	-----	\$236,620.00
50						

51		'02 APPRO.	'02 EXPENDITURES	OVERSPENT	UNDERSPENT	2003 RECOMMENDE
52	SPECIAL APPRO.					
53	To Capital Reserves:					
54	Town Buildings	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	-----		\$0.00
55	Highway Equipment	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	-----		\$0.00
56	Bridges	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	-----		\$0.00
57	Property Revaluation	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	-----		\$0.00
58					TOTAL	\$0.00
59						
60	Article #6 - Handicapped Entrance	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00			\$0.00
61	Article #7 Computerized Tax Maps	\$7,200.00	\$5,931.90	non-lapsing 12/31/04		\$1,126.81
62	Article #7- LOADER IMPLEMENTS	\$32,000.00	\$32,000.00			
63						
64	GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPRO.	\$237,629.78	\$238,038.90			\$236,620.00
65	SPECIAL APPRO.	\$18,000.00	\$18,000.00			\$0.00
66	TOTAL APPRO.	\$255,629.78	\$256,038.90			\$236,620.00
67						
68						

SOURCES OF REVENUES

SOURCE	'02 ESTIMATE	'02 ACTUAL	2003 ESTIMATE
TAXES			
Yield Taxes	\$23,000.00	\$11,902.92	\$15,000.00
Interest & Penalties	\$1,000.00	\$4,339.02	\$3,000.00
STATE OF NH			
Revenue Sharing	\$10,000.00	\$11,801.00	\$10,000.00
Rooms & Meals Tax	\$8,000.00	\$10,061.85	\$8,000.00
Highway Block Grant	\$29,346.33	\$29,346.33	\$31,665.37
State Forest Land	\$600.00	\$789.58	\$600.00
LICENSES & FEES			
Motor Vehicles	\$30,000.00	\$42,317.50	\$35,000.00
Dog Licenses	\$500.00	\$629.07	\$500.00
Permits & Filing Fees	\$200.00	\$204.00	\$200.00
UCC Fees	\$200.00	\$210.00	\$200.00
MISCELLANEOUS			
Planning Board	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Insurance Div/Refunds	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Sale of Town Property	\$100.00	\$26,752.47	\$100.00
Taxes Bought by Town		\$37,414.52	
F.E.M.A. Payments		\$879.28	
Interest on Deposits	\$500.00	\$234.39	\$200.00
Forest Fire Training Reimb.		\$54.67	
Grange Elec. Reimb.		\$51.22	
Gift (Abell)		\$10,000.00	
Pistol Per./ copies		\$70.00	
MVRSD (Superv. Reimb.)		\$60.00	
Town Hall Indemnification Fee		\$105.00	
Community Dev. Block Grant Reimb.		\$12,623.19	
Current Use Filing Fee		\$16.34	
TOTAL	\$103,596.33	\$199,862.35	\$104,465.37

DETAILED SUMMARY OF RECEIPTS

Property Taxes:

Current Year.....	\$327,050.76
Interest.....	\$0.00
Prior Years.....	\$83,377.94
Interest.....	\$4,339.02

Redeemed Taxes:

Lien Amount.....	\$14,032.20
Costs and Interest.....	\$2,611.78

Yield Taxes:

Current Year.....	\$11,902.92
Prior Years.....	\$0.00

State of NH:

Revenue Sharing.....	\$11,801.00
Rooms & Meals Tax.....	\$10,061.85
Highway Block Grant.....	\$29,346.33
State Forest Land.....	\$789.58

Motor Vehicles Fees.....	\$42,317.50
Dog Licenses & Penalties.....	\$629.07
Title Fees & Copies.....	\$204.00
U.C.C. Filings.....	\$210.00
Municipal Agent's Fee.....	\$1,102.50
Marriages.....	\$135.00
Miscellaneous.....	\$378.50
Taxes Bought by Town.....	\$37,414.52
Forest Fire Training Reimbursement.....	\$54.67
Town Hall Indemnification Fees.....	\$105.00
Reimbursement Supervisors of the Checklist (MVRSD).....	\$60.00
Reimbursement Grange electricity.....	\$51.22
Pistol Permits.....	\$70.00
F.E.M.A (State portion Blizzard 2001).....	\$879.28
Interest on Deposits.....	\$234.39
Sale of Town Property.....	\$26,752.47
Gift (Abell).....	\$10,000.00
Community Development Block Grant Reimbursement.....	\$12,623.19
Current Use Filing Fee.....	\$16.34

Total Receipts for 2002.....	\$1,015,941.66
Cash on hand January 1, 2002.....	\$36,480.26
Cash Available for 2002.....	\$1,052,421.92
Balance on hand, December 31, 2002.....	-\$160,967.82

SUMMARY OF VALUATIONS

Net Land Values, 27,167.19 acres.....	\$8,344,877.00
Tax Exempt Land.....	\$601,707.00
Net Taxable Land Value.....	\$7,743,170.00
C.U. Valuation, 25,407 acres.....	\$1,326,539.00
Land (All Other), 1,760.19 acres.....	\$6,416,631.00
 Buildings (All).....	 \$10,079,712.00
Less Tax Exempt Buildings.....	\$388,500.00
Net Taxable Buildings Valuation.....	\$9,691,212.00
 Public Utilities, NH Electric Co-op.....	 \$632,378.00
 Total Evaluation Before Exemption.....	 \$18,455,260.00
Elderly Exemptions.....	\$36,000.00
Valuation on which tax rate is computed.....	\$18,419,260.00

TAXES ASSESSED AND TAX RATE

Net Assessed Valuation.....	\$18,419,260.00
Town Property Taxes Assessed.....	\$388,500.00
Less War Service Credit.....	\$5,150.00
Net Property Tax Commitment.....	\$546,179.84
Tax Rate per \$1,000.....	\$30.05
Municipal....\$6.60	County....\$1.58
	Local School.....\$15.43
	State Education..... \$6.44

SCHEDULE OF TOWN PROPERTY

Town House, Land & Buildings.....	\$94,000.00
Contents.....	\$1,350.00
Selectmen's Office, Land & Buildings.....	\$30,900.00
Contents.....	\$5,000.00
Police Department Equipment.....	\$100.00
Highway Department, Equipment & Materials.....	\$206,400.00
Historical Museum.....	\$12,400.00
Other Town Land.....	\$37,029.00
Forest Fire Equipment.....	\$2,000.00
TOTAL.....	\$389,179.00

FINANCIAL REPORT

BALANCE SHEET DECEMBER 31, 2002

ASSETS:

Cash on Hand.....	\$168,903.74
Funds in custody of Treasurer.....	\$168,903.74
Unredeemed Taxes.....	\$85,856.32
Uncollected Taxes.....	\$221,343.51
Property Taxes.....	\$219,104.54
Yield Taxes.....	\$478.97
Land Use Change.....	\$1,760.00
Total Asset	\$476,103.57

LIABILITIES:

Accounts owed by the Town:	
School Taxes Payable, January - June 2003.....	\$193,820.28
Tax Anticipation Notes.....	\$329,871.56
Total Liabilities.....	\$523,691.84

FUND BALANCE (Excess of Assets over Liabilities)..... **-\$47,588.27**

RECONCILIATION:

Fund Balance, December 31, 2001.....	\$51,706.96
Fund Balance December 31, 2002.....	-\$47,588.27
Change In Financial Condition.....	-\$99,295.23

TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT

December 31, 2002

CASH ON HAND, January 1, 2002.....\$36,480.26
 Includes:.....\$15,923.87 (Mascoma Checking)
 \$11,420.07 (Mascoma Savings Bank)
 \$9,136.32 (Pemigewasset Checking)

RECEIVED FROM:

Tax Collector..... \$479,198.77
 Town Clerk..... \$46,332.57
 Selectmen.....\$102,675.93
 Tax Anticipation Loans.... \$355,500.00
 Interest..... \$234.39
 Highway Capital Reserve... \$32,000.00

TOTAL RECEIPT..... \$1,015,941.66
 TOTAL AVAILABLE..... \$1,052,421.92

PAYMENTS BY ORDER OF SELECTMEN.....\$883,518.18
 CASH ON HAND, DECEMBER 31, 2002.....\$168,903.74

MASCOMA SAVINGS BANK (Checking).....\$40,817.49
 MASCOMA SAVINGS BANK (Money Mgmt)..... \$1,568.64
 PEMIGEWASSET NATIONAL BANK..... \$4,014.56
 Tax Collector Receipts in Transit.... \$119,986.05
 Town Clerk Receipts in Transit..... \$2,517.00
 TOTAL CASH ON HAND..... \$168,903.74

OUTSTANDING TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES

Mascoma Savings Bank Note 1..... \$153,507.30
 Mascoma Savings Bank Note 2..... \$176,364.26
 Total \$329,871.56

TOTAL ACCOUNT BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2002.....-\$160,967.82

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

BRIAN A. HOWE
 TREASURER

TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT
For the Municipality of Dorchester, N.H.
Year Ending 12-31-02

Uncollected Taxes- Beginning Year: 2002	Prior
Property Taxes.....	\$99,338.43
Land Use Change.....	\$1,760.00
Yield Taxes.....	\$14,398.55

Taxes Committed This Year:

Property Taxes.....	\$546,155.30
Yield Taxes.....	\$11,902.92
Overpayment Property Taxes.....	\$53.73

TOTAL DEBITS..... \$558,111.95.... \$115,496.98

Remitted to treasurer during FY:

Property Taxes.....	\$327,050.76.....	\$83,377.94
Yield Taxes.....	\$11,902.92.....	\$0.00
Interest/Costs.....	\$0.00.....	\$4,339.02
Conversion to Lien.....	\$0.00.....	\$32,042.42

Abatements made.....	\$376.38.....	\$0.00
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Uncollected Taxes, end of year:

Property Taxes.....	\$219,104.54.....	\$0.00
Land Use Change.....	\$0.00.....	\$1,760.00
Yield Taxes.....	\$0.00.....	\$478.97

TOTAL CREDITS..... \$558,434.60..... \$121,998.35

Unredeemed Liens Balance at Beg. of Year.....	\$62,534.27
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Liens Executed During Fiscal Year.....	\$37,414.52
--	-------------

Int. & Costs Collected after Lien Execution.....	\$2,611.78
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TOTAL DEBITS.....\$102,560.57

Remittance to Treasurer:

Redemptions.....	\$14,032.20
Interest & Costs After Lien Execution.....	\$2,611.78

Unredeemed Liens Balance, End of Year.....	\$85,856.32
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TOTAL CREDITS.....\$102,500.30



Delbert Pratt, Tax Collector

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

December 31, 2002

Cash on Hand 1/1/02.....\$100.00

Car Registrations - 471.....\$42,317.50

Title Fees + Copies.....\$204.00

Dog Licenses - 101.....\$629.07

UCC Filings\$210.00

Marriage Licenses.....\$135.00

Misc. (Maps, Permits, Copies, Filing Fees).....\$378.50

M.A.F.....\$1,102.50

Total Remitted to Treasurer.....\$44,976.57

Cash on Hand, December 31, 2003.....\$100.00

Brenda Howe, Town Clerk

AUDITORS' REPORT

We, the undersigned, have examined the accounts of the Selectmen, Treasurer, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Cemetery Trustees and the Trustees of Trust Funds, and find them correctly and properly vouched.

January 30, 2003

Auditors Martha Walker
Cindy Azarov

2002 REPORT OF CEMETERY COMMITTEE

A Trust Fund has been started with the money held in the Cemetery Checking Account. This is money from the sale of lots in the different cemeteries. This Trust Fund will be used for the care of all cemeteries.

We now have enough money to purchase more fencing for the Dorchester Cemetery, with plans to complete the project in 2003.

Receipts:

Balance January 2002.....	\$1,463.95
Town Appropriation.....	\$1,400.00
Bank Interest	\$8.77
Cash (Whitehurst Money).....	\$37.75
TOTAL.....	\$2,910.47

Payments:

2001 Taxes (Med. & S.S.).....	\$141.56
<i>Dorchester Cemetery</i>	\$279.00
<i>Town House Cemetery</i>	\$108.00
<i>Cheever Cemetery</i>	\$126.00
<i>North Dorchester Cemetery</i>	\$216.00
American Legion Post 76 (flags).....	\$20.50
2002 Taxes (Med. & S.S.).....	\$55.77
Trust Fund Money.....	\$1,000.00
Cemetery Fence.....	\$600.00
TOTAL.....	\$2,546.83

Balance on Hand January 2003..... \$363.64

Respectfully submitted,
Cemetery Trustees

DETAILED REPORT OF PAYMENTS

TOWN OFFICERS' SALARIES.....\$13,280.85

Robert R. Estabrook, Selectman (Chairman).....	\$1,385.24
Andrew Houghton, Selectman (Jan. ~ Mar.)	\$346.31
Albert John Franz, Selectman (Apr.~ Dec.).....	\$1,038.93
John A. Cote, Selectman.....	\$1,599.49
E. James Scott, Treasurer (Jan. ~ Mar.).....	\$230.87
Samantha L. Scott, Dep. Treasurer (Jan ~ Mar.).....	\$13.85
Brian A. Howe, Treasurer (Apr. ~ Dec.).....	\$692.62
Jennifer Grace, Dep. Treasurer (Apr. ~ Dec.).....	\$41.55
Delbert Pratt, Tax Collector.....	\$1,385.24
Marilyn Pratt, Dep. Tax Collector.....	\$55.40
Brenda Howe, Town Clerk (Salary + Fees).....	\$2,876.65
Darlene Oaks, Dep. Town Clerk (Salary + Fees).....	\$1,407.82
Darlene Oaks, Trustee of Trust Funds.....	\$46.17
Brenda Howe, Trustee of Trust Funds.....	\$46.17
Carol Towne, Trustee of Trust Fund.....	\$46.17
Martha L. Walker, Auditor.....	\$92.35
Cindy Azotea, Auditor.....	\$92.35
F.I.C.A.....	\$1,883.67

TOWN OFFICERS' EXPENSES.....\$26,415.78

Linda Landry, Sec/Bkkpr.....	\$11,353.92
F.I.C.A.....	\$2,290.86
Withholding.....	\$1,200.00
Current Use Recordings.....	\$45.05
Legal Books & Publications.....	\$667.93
Mileage.....	\$1,339.71
Postage.....	\$1,260.57
Computer/Copier Service.....	\$1,749.12
Real Estate Transfers (Deeds).....	\$466.00
Supplies.....	\$2,022.65
Tax Bills.....	\$2,122.50
Telephone/FAX.....	\$1,657.47
Workshops/Seminars.....	\$240.00

REGISTRATION & ELECTION.....\$1,642.45

Brian A. Howe, Ballot Clerk.....	\$52.50
Delbert Pratt, Ballot Clerk.....	\$121.00
Alice Melanson, Ballot Clerk.....	\$176.13
Henry Melanson, Moderator.....	\$173.27
Christine M. Morgan, Supervisor of Checklist.....	\$214.85
Darlene Oaks, Supervisor of Checklist.....	\$214.85
Marilyn Pratt, Supervisor of Checklist.....	\$214.85
F.I.C.A.....	\$135.49
Legal Notices.....	\$301.60
Expenses/Mileage.....	\$37.91

TOWN REPORTS OF 2001.....	\$965.71
Fred B. Estabrook Printing.....	\$813.25
Postage.....	\$129.78
Addressing and Mailing.....	\$22.68
LAND USE BOARDS.....	\$932.06
John A. Cote, Permit Officer.....	\$36.94
Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Council.....	\$339.00
Rhianna Bourgelais (map files).....	\$550.00
F.I.C.A.....	\$6.12
TOWN BUILDINGS.....	\$9,324.57
A.M. Rand Co.....	\$195.61
Ashland Lumber	\$55.00
Bradford Pratt's Co.....	\$896.08
Canaan Hardware.....	\$179.68
Nancy Cote (Grounds).....	\$192.09
Jeanne Conkey (Custodian).....	\$672.32
Granite State Glass.....	\$3.55
Indemnification Fee (refund).....	\$35.00
Johnson & Dix (Town Hall).....	\$1,185.12
K & R. Portable Toilets.....	\$1,760.00
Linda M. Landry.....	\$70.00
N.H. Electric Co-op.....	\$677.89
Plymouth Furniture (carpet).....	\$884.00
R.J. Crowley (moving safe).....	\$750.00
R.P. Johnson.....	\$81.27
Supplies (general).....	\$349.89
Verizon (Town Hall).....	\$357.21
Yeaton Agway.....	\$7.99
Yeaton Oil Co. (Town Office).....	\$836.02
F.I.C.A.....	\$135.85
PROPERTY APPRAISAL.....	\$2,444.20
David A. Morrill.....	\$808.46
Earls, Nieder, Perkins, LLC.....	\$475.00
Linda M. Landry.....	\$540.00
Postage/Phone/Supplies.....	\$502.97
F.I.C.A.....	\$117.77
PUBLIC SAFETY	
Fire Protection.....	\$19,191.70
Town of Rumney Fire Dept.....	\$6,595.70
Rumney Fire Association.....	\$675.00
Town of Canaan Fire Dept.....	\$11,921.00
Forest Fire Dept.	\$198.65
John Jay Legg, Warden	\$71.25
Michael Joyce, Deputy Warden.....	\$67.88
Matthew Dow, Deputy Warden.....	\$33.98
F.I.C.A.....	\$25.54

Animal Control.....	\$1,311.77
Eugene Morton.....	\$237.84
F.I.C.A.....	\$27.54
Upper Valley Humane Society.....	\$630.00
A.M. Rand Co.....	\$1.39
Grafton County Sheriff's Dept.....	\$32.00
Venture Print	\$113.00
State of N.H. (Animal Population Control).....	\$270.00
LEGAL EXPENSES.....	\$1,376.61
Mitchell & Bates, PA.....	\$1,376.61
HIGHWAYS, STREETS & BRIDGES.....	\$143,369.32
Payroll.....	\$39,097.03
F.I.C.A./Withholding.....	\$10,994.91
Town Maintenance.....	\$93,277.38
Includes: Highway Block Grant	\$29,346.33
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL.....	\$19,301.87
Town of Rumney, Transfer Station.....	\$18,684.50
Town of Rumney (dump stickers).....	\$65.67
Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District (dues).....	\$451.70
Plymouth Village Water & Sewage District.....	\$100.00
DORCHESTER CEMETERY COMMITTEE.....	\$1,400.00
HEALTH.....	\$6,408.73
Canaan F.A.S.T. Squad.....	\$3,500.00
Grafton County Senior Citizens Council.....	\$600.00
Visiting Nurse Alliance of Vt & NH.....	\$1,420.00
Voices Against Violence.....	\$340.00
Plymouth Regional Clinic.....	\$300.00
Health Officers.....	\$218.13
F.I.C.A.....	\$30.60
WELFARE.....	\$2,334.02
General Assistance.....	\$642.22
Alice Melanson, Welfare Director.....	\$1,108.20
Tri-County Assistance (CAP).....	\$400.00
F.I.C.A.....	\$183.60
REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS.....	\$595.00
N.H. Assessing Officials' Dues.....	\$20.00
N.H. City & Town Clerks' Dues.....	\$20.00
N.H. Health Officers' Dues.....	\$10.00
N.H. Municipal Assoc. Dues.....	\$500.00
N.H. Public Works Mutual Aid.....	\$25.00
N.H. Tax Collectors' Dues.....	\$20.00

INSURANCE.....	\$15,591.39
Liberty Mutual Insurance (Workers' Comp.).....	\$1,957.00
N.H. Municipal Assoc. (Workers' Comp.).....	\$3,000.00
N.H.M.A. Prop./Liab. Insurance.....	\$2,647.81
HealthTrust (Health).....	\$5,289.30
N.H. Compensation Funds.....	\$52.63
TAXES BOUGHT BY TOWN.....	\$37,414.52
TAX REFUNDS.....	\$119.00
GRAFTON COUNTY TAX.....	\$30,217.00
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.....	\$190.00
Treasurer, State of N.H.....	\$190.00
TO CAPITAL RESERVES.....	\$18,000.00
Town Building Fund.....	\$2,500.00
Highway Equipment Fund.....	\$3,000.00
Bridges Fund.....	\$2,500.00
Revaluation of Property Fund.....	\$10,000.00
MASCOMA SCHOOL DISTRICT.....	\$389,131.05
DEBT SERVICE.....	\$570.57
Tax Anticipation Loan Interest.....	\$570.57
E911 & Emergency Management	\$663.61
TAX LIENS EXPENSES.....	\$708.34
ARTICLE #6 - HANDICAPPED ACCESS (TOWN HALL).....	\$10,000.00
Rainman Construction.....	\$10,000.00
ARTICLE #7 (2001) - TAX MAPS.....	\$2,700.00
ARTICLE #7 (2002) - LOADER IMPLEMENTS.....	\$32,007.96
Baileyhill Motorsport (trailer).....	\$12,988.74
Southworth-Milton Inc. (loader implements)....	\$18,176.64
Kibby Equipment.....	\$842.58
MELANSON WAY - BRIDGE #132/166.....	\$16,482.10
Mitchell & Bates Professional Assoc. (legal).....	\$949.40
Conklin & Reynolds, P.A. (legal).....	\$350.00
John A. Cote.....	\$21.70
Dorchester Sand & Stone.....	\$350.00
Office of Register of Deeds.....	\$26.00
Melanson Family Revocable Trust.....	\$15,000.00
EMERGENCY CULVERT REPLACEMENT.....	\$19,200.00

PAYMENTS FOR ALL PURPOSES..... \$822,933.58



Receipts January 1, 2002 thru December 31, 2002.....	\$1,015,941.66
Cash On Hand, January 1, 2002.....	\$36,480.26
Cash Available.....	\$1,052,421.92
Disbursements, January 1, 2002 thru December 31, 2002.....	\$883,518.18
General Fund.....	\$168,903.74
Cash on Hand, December 31, 2002.....	\$168,903.74



2002 ROAD MONEY DISTRIBUTION

PAYROLL.....\$50,091.94

George C. Conkey, II Road Agent	\$18,233.29
Jody Champney.....	\$2,462.47
Daniel Conkey.....	\$36.94
John A. Cote.....	\$211.19
John K. Day.....	\$36.94
Chris Faucher.....	\$221.64
Brett MacDonald.....	\$11,544.57
Clarence Poltras.....	\$4,517.77
Ronald Stokowski.....	\$1,832.22
F.I.C.A.....	\$7,576.91
Withholding.....	\$3,418.00

SUB-CONTRACTORS.....\$12,334.00

T.L.C. Tree & Crane Service.....	\$445.00
M & D. Paving Enterprises.....	\$10,389.00
Michael A. Joyce.....	\$1,500.00

FUEL.....\$5,261.50

Bradford Pratt's Co.....	\$4,161.58
Davis Gas.....	\$58.00
Ryezak Oil Co.....	\$849.37
Shortt's Garage.....	\$145.87
Wise Guy's Auto Parts.....	\$46.68

INTERNATIONAL TRUCK EXPENSES.....\$2,542.76

A.M. Rand Co.....	\$30.07
Baileyhill Motorsports.....	\$760.12
Iroquois Manufacturing.....	\$883.90
Liberty International.....	\$102.45
N.H. Municipal Truck Equipment.....	\$382.85
Sabil & Sons.....	\$85.63
Sanel Auto Parts Co.....	\$9.53
Wise Guy's Automotive.....	\$288.21

FORD 550 TRUCK EXPENSES.....\$15,986.03

A.M. Rand Co.....	\$23.73
Baileyhill Motorsports.....	\$415.10
Flanders & Patch.....	\$390.60
Ford Motor Credit.....	\$12,946.63
N.H. Municipal Truck Equipment.....	\$197.24
Sabil & Sons.....	\$155.92
Wilson Tire.....	\$1,713.94
Wise Guy's Automotive.....	\$142.87

1996 FORD RANGER.....	\$1,197.34
Baileyhill Motorsports.....	\$577.62
Bob Brown Automotive.....	\$573.00
Sanel Auto Parts.....	\$16.31
Wise Guy's Automotive.....	\$30.41

LOADER BACKHOE.....	\$12,917.27
A.M. Rand Co (old).....	\$1.09
Baileyhill Motorsport (old).....	\$23.22
Canaan Hardware (new).....	\$13.69
Caterpillar Financial Services (new).....	\$12,169.35
Lizottes Automotive (new).....	\$160.00
Southworth Milton (new).....	\$59.88
Town Line Equipment (old).....	\$51.12
Venture Printing (new).....	\$100.00
Wilson Tire Inc (old).....	\$209.00
Wise Guy Automotive.....	\$129.92

OTHER EQUIPMENT.....	\$4,486.93
A.M. Rand Co.....	\$746.74
Carl Matthews Equip. (dozer rental).....	\$1,400.00
Iroquois Manufacturing Co.....	\$39.25
Merriam-Graves Corp.....	\$419.26
Small Engine Technology.....	\$555.80
T.L.C. Tree & Crane Service (chipper rental).....	\$525.00
Townline Equipment.....	\$73.17
Gary Walker.....	\$200.00
Wise Guy Automotive.....	\$527.71

MAINTENANCE MATERIALS.....	\$31,945.18
Ashland Lumber Co.....	\$123.54
Cargill Salt.....	\$2,138.68
Dorchester Sand & Stone.....	\$6,000.00
Robert Gregoire.....	\$126.00
J.A.F. Industries (culverts).....	\$9,395.80
Richard Johnson.....	\$97.50
Pike Industries Inc.....	\$1,581.93
Warren Sand & Gravel Inc.....	\$11,718.00
Wood Specialties.....	\$40.00
Yeaton Agway Services.....	\$723.73

GENERAL HIGHWAY EXPENSE.....	\$6,606.37
A.M. Rand Company.....	\$227.55
Ashland Lumber Co.....	\$33.60
Baileyhill Motorsports.....	\$611.95
Canaan Hardware.....	\$159.49
Dawn Conkey (mileage).....	\$9.92
John A. Cote (mileage).....	\$60.45
Electricity/Phone.....	\$1,527.74
Albert John Franz (mileage).....	\$15.68
Haskell's Work Clothes (safety shoes).....	\$142.99
Kevin Bolash Welding.....	\$1,266.93
Lakes Region Two-Way.....	\$131.40
Merriam-Graves Corp.....	\$239.13
N.H. State of, Treasurer (signs).....	\$84.00
Sanel Auto Parts.....	\$17.49
Small Engine Technology.....	\$104.75
Sosmetal Products.....	\$160.11
UniFirst.....	\$770.67
Wise Guy's Automotive.....	\$677.09
Workshops/Seminars.....	\$365.43

2002 ROAD MONEY DISTRIBUTION SUMMARY

PAYROLL.....	\$50,091.94
SUB-CONTRACTORS.....	\$12,334.00
FUEL.....	\$5,261.50
INTERNATIONAL TRUCK EXPENSES	\$2,542.76
FORD 550 TRUCK EXPENSES.....	\$15,986.03
1996 FORD RANGER.....	\$1,197.34
LOADER BACKHOE.....	\$12,917.27
OTHER EQUIPMENT	\$4,486.93
MAINTENANCE MATERIALS.....	\$31,945.18
GENERAL HIGHWAY EXPENSES.....	\$6,606.37
TOTAL.....	\$143,369.32

Road Agent's Report

The Dorchester Highway Department has been operating in high gear since Town Meeting 2002. Upon approval from the town's people, the Selectmen, and I set about reviewing the pros and cons of the different backhoe/loaders we had received bids on, eventually settling on a Caterpillar 420D Backhoe/Loader, which was delivered in late April. The implements (forks, broom, and york rake) would arrive in June. A 19' flat bed trailer, heavy enough to transport any of the town's equipment was also delivered. The Town's International Truck was equipped with air brakes and a trailer hitch heavy enough to accommodate the new trailer. We were ready to embark on one of the most ambitious combination of road projects Dorchester has seen in many years.

In March, we had outlined 5 projects which would need to be completed during the summer of 2002, or as we refer to it at the Dorchester Highway Department, "the two months when it is safe to remove the plows from the trucks".

Project 1 was the replacement of 10 culverts on the town portion of River Road. The majority of these culverts had either failed or were about to fail. With the help of Selectman Cote, we were able to purchase a load of culverts rather than individually which will be much more cost effective in the long run. During the replacement process we also did some extensive ditching and drainage work. Hopefully, we can pave over these areas in the near future.

Project 2 was the paving of a portion of Hearse House Road. This was the only project which we were forced to contract out. We put the project out to bid and the low bid went to M & D Paving. We were able to cut the cost of the project by preparing the area to be paved ourselves, and providing the flagging crew.

Project 3 and 4 really put the new equipment to the test. Two stretches of Bickford Woods Road were torn up, culverts replaced, and materials replaced. Both portions of the road are ready for paving at a later date.

Project 5 had been to replace 2 culverts on Cross Road. However, we were unable to receive landowner permission to complete the work. The Selectmen will continue to attempt to resolve this situation.

We were on a roll, so with the extra culverts on hand, we proceeded to remedy the problem of drainage ditches around the Town Common. Ask any "old timer" and they can tell you stories about those drainage ditches that go back before the time of automobiles. The job was completed but not grassed over in time for Dorchester's Old Home Days.

Our final project, before we needed to put up our winter sand and salt, and, yes of course, get those plows on the trucks, after all it was nearly the 1st of October, was to devote some time to the roads on the Lyme end of the Cummings Pond Road. Because of the problem of transporting men and equipment to that area in the past, only the bare minimum of care was afforded this portion of the Dorchester road system. We spent a week and a half ditching and replacing culverts. Dorchester residents on that end of Town received some much deserved attention from the Dorchester Highway Department. We have plans to extend the roadside mowing project to that end of town in 2003.

As with every other area of Town government the Highway Department has done its part to help reduce the 2003 tax burden without neglecting our roads. We should be able to continue a moderate level of repair and reclamation in the coming year.

In closing, the Dorchester Highway Department is here to serve the needs of the people of Dorchester. If you require anything regarding town roads, please call the Highway Garage at 786-2385, and leave a message.

Respectfully submitted
George C. Conkey, II
Road Agent



Congratulations

**On November 21, 2002, David Fluarty, Director
of the Technology Transfer Center journeyed to
Dorchester from the University of New
Hampshire in Durham to present:
Master Road Scholar Awards
to:**

**Selectman, John A. Cote
&**

Road Agent, George C. Conkey II.

**Achieving the prestigious level of Master Road Scholar
means that, both John and George participated in the
University of New Hampshire Road Scholar's Program
for a total of 100 contact hours covering a range of
topic dealing with roads.**

**John A. Cote, has the distinguished honor of being the
only Selectman in the State of New Hampshire to reach
this level of expertise**

**Both men were presented with beautiful engraved clocks.
Mr. Fluarty was quick to point out that, not only was this
an honor for the men, but also a reflection on the
commitment the Town of Dorchester has made to its
road system**

Dorchester

Planning Board 2002

2002 found the Dorchester Planning Board continuing to meet on the second Wednesday of each month, with special meetings called when needed. Although, the Board was not faced with any major subdivisions this year, it did participate in several projects of importance to the citizens of Dorchester.

In February, the Planning Board began the process of granting a subdivision of the Melanson property to allow the Town to take title to .96 acres over which "Melanson Way", a Class V highway had been built to replace Bridge #132/166 which had been destroyed by ice on April 13, 2001. The Planning Board unanimously voted to waive any and all subdivision requirements pertaining to the Subdivision of land for the purpose of development (building lots). This decision was based on the following: the .96 acres was to be conveyed to the Town for the sole purpose of holding title to land over which a Town road had been constructed, that the road met all requirements and had been accepted as a Class V road by the Town, and would never be considered a building lot. The Subdivision was unanimously approved and the plan filed with Grafton County Registry of Deeds.

In October, the Dorchester Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment held a joint meeting to review Article V of the Land Use Regulations pertaining to non-conforming lots. This should be of particular interest to property owners who own non-conforming lots. These are lots which do not meet the requirements as established in the Land Use Regulations for whatever reason, usually, but not limited to; lots containing less than the required two acres for a building lot.

Non-conforming lots which are held in valid, distinct, separate ownership at the time the Land Use Regulations were adopted may continue to be used or if vacant, can receive a variance for development. However, land held in common ownership divided by a public or private road, or a watercourse so that either lot is non-conforming, is considered to be contiguous and cannot be separated from one another. This portion of the Land Use Regulations would effect any land owner attempting to sell, donate or otherwise dispose of a non-conforming lot which has an abutting lot, even though these lots may have been acquired by separate deeds. The only exception to this regulation would be, what is commonly called, a "boundary adjustment" in which the non-conforming lot would be absorbed into an abutting lot not held in common ownership. If you

have any questions regarding non-conforming lots do not hesitate to contact the Planning Board.

The final area of review undertaken by the Planning Board concerned building on Class VI roads. Class VI roads include all local highways discontinued subject to gates and bars, and all highways that haven't been maintained and repaired by the town in suitable condition for travel for 5 successive years or more. Class VI highways are full public highways in every sense except maintenance. A lot with frontage on a Class VI road, meeting all other requirements as described in the Land Use Regulations, may receive a building permit, only if the landowner is willing to record with the registry of deeds a waiver of liability agreeing that the Town is not liable for maintenance of the Class VI road, and is not liable for any accidents, resulting from its use. This waiver of liability is referred to as a "Road Release". Contact the Board of Selectmen for a copy of this "Road Release" form.

RSA 674:41 is the only State mandated "zoning ordinance" in New Hampshire, and neither the Board of Selectmen nor the Planning Board may supersede this law. Its provisions limit the roads on which buildings may be constructed. No building permit can be issued unless the road giving access to the lot is either:

- * Class V or better highway
- * a road shown on a plat approved by the Planning Board, and constructed according to Town standards.
- * a Class VI highway, but only if, after a review and comment by the Planning Board, the Selectmen agree to a "Road Release" to be filed by the landowner with registry of deeds.

Therefore, the Town of Dorchester cannot lawfully allow building on a lot which does not meet the above requirements.

In closing, the Planning Board encourages the landowners of Dorchester to become familiar with Dorchester's Land Use Regulations. If you have any questions regarding either the Subdivision Regulations or the Land Use Regulations do not hesitate to contact any member of the Planning Board.



Dorchester Planning Board

2nd Wednesday of each month

7:00 p.m. ~ Town Office

January 8, 2003

February 12, 2003

March 12, 2003

April 9, 2003

May 14, 2003

June 11, 2003

July 9, 2003

August 13, 2003

September 10, 2003

October 8, 2003

November 12, 2003

December 10, 2003



2002 REPORT OF TRUST FUNDS

CEMETERY TRUSTS

Lucy Hazen & Sanborn Kimball Fund

Balance, 12/31/01.....	\$282.75
Interest 2002.....	\$5.69
Balance, 12/31/02.....	\$288.44

Scott Burleigh Fund

Balance, 12/31/01.....	\$864.06
Interest 2002.....	\$17.42
Balance, 12/31/02.....	\$881.48

Paul Hutchinson Fund

Balance, 12/31/01.....	\$1,439.23
Interest 2002.....	\$29.01
Balance, 12/31/02.....	\$1,468.24

J. C. Davenport Fund

Balance, 12/31/01.....	\$206.51
Interest 2002.....	\$4.16
Balance, 12/31/02.....	\$210.67

Joseph & Katherine Grochocki Fund

Balance, 12/31/01.....	\$362.22
Interest 2002.....	\$7.30
Balance, 12/31/02.....	\$369.52

Town Cemetery Fund

Balance, 12/31/01.....	\$2,275.57
Interest 2002.....	\$45.87
Balance, 12/31/02.....	\$2,321.44

CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS

Town Building Fund

Balance, 12/31/01.....	\$42,081.61
New Funds 2002.....	\$2,500.00
Expended 2002.....	\$0.00
Interest 2002.....	\$1,257.08
Balance, 12/31/02.....	\$45,838.69

Highway Equipment & Maintenance Fund

Balance, 12/31/01.....	\$33,591.91
New Funds 2002.....	\$3,000.00
Expended 2002.....	\$32,000.00
Interest 2002.....	\$660.15
Balance, 12/31/02.....	\$5,252.06

Bridges Fund

Balance, 12/31/01.....	\$26,487.81
New Funds 2002.....	\$2,500.00
Expended 2002.....	\$0.00
Interest 2002.....	\$842.46
Balance, 12/31/02.....	\$29,830.27

Property Revaluation Fund

Balance, 12/31/01.....	\$25,685.39
New Funds 2002.....	\$10,000.00
Expended 2002.....	\$0.00
Interest 2002.....	\$951.99
Balance, 12/31/02.....	\$36,637.38

Respectfully Submitted,
Brenda A. Howe
Darlene Oaks
Carol Towne
Trustees of Trust Funds

Report of Forest Fire Warden and State Forest Ranger

Your local Forest Fire Warden, Fire Department, and the State of New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands cooperate and coordinate to reduce the risk of wildland fires in New Hampshire. To help us assist you, contact your local Forest Fire Warden or Fire Department to find out if a permit is required before doing **ALL** outside burning. Fire permits are mandatory for any open burning unless the ground where the burning is to be done (and surrounding areas) is completely covered with snow. Violations of RSA 227-L:17, the fire permit law and the other burning laws of the State of New Hampshire are misdemeanors punishable by fines up to \$2,000 and/or a year in jail, plus suppression costs.

A new law effective January 1, 2003 prohibits residential trash burning (RSA 125-N). Contact New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services at (800) 498-6868 or www.des.state.nh.us for more information.

Help us to protect you and our forest resources. Most New Hampshire wildfires are human caused. Homeowners can help protect their homes by maintaining adequate green space around the house and make sure that the house number is correct and visible. Contact your local Fire Department or the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands at www.nhdfi.com or call 271-2217 for wildland fire safety information.

REMEMBER ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES!

2002 FIRE STATISTICS

(All Fires Reported thru November 10, 2002)

FIRES REPORTED BY COUNTY

	<u># of Fires</u>	<u>Acres</u>
Belknap	52	13.5
Carroll	80	10.5
Cheshire	39	17
Coos	3	2.5
Grafton	53	21
Hillsborough	108	54.5
Merrimack	94	13.5
Rockingham	60	25.5
Strafford	31	23
Sullivan	20	6

CAUSES OF FIRES

Arson/Suspicious	43
Campfire	31
Children	32
Smoking	32
Rekindle of Permit	3
Illegal	7
Lightning	36
Misc*	356

*Misc: (powerlines, fireworks, railroad, ashes, debris, structures, equipment, etc.)

	<u>TOTAL FIRES</u>	<u>TOTAL ACRES</u>
2002	540	428
2000	516	149
1999	1301	452

Stephen M. Kessler, Forest Ranger
Jay Legg, Forest Fire Warden

TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM

**Serving Coos, Carroll & Grafton Counties
30 Exchange Street, Berlin, N.H. 03570
1-800-552-4617
FAX No. 752-7607**

Tri-County Community Action Program is a private, not-for-profit agency.

The following is a report of services provided in fiscal year 2001-2002

Community Contact has provided **21** direct energy services for Dorchester's citizens and certified **19** fuel assistance benefits, **8** of which were elderly. We provided referrals and/or counseling, and also shared numerous information and referrals resources in the areas of housing, energy, nutrition, education, legal, health and related services. A complete report of the last year's services follows.

TRI-COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION HAS SPENT \$12,119 ON DORCHESTER CITIZENS BETWEEN JULY 1, 2001 AND JUNE 30, 2002

Community Contact provides these and other necessary services for the less fortunate citizens in your town and surrounding vicinities. We are depending upon funding from your town and others countywide. The local funds are combined with the Community Services Block Grant, Fuel Assistance and NH Emergency Shelter Grant, Homeless Programs and FEMA.

We sincerely appreciate the Town of Dorchester's past support and look forward to continuing our partnership to provide essential services to your residents.

**VISITING NURSE ALLIANCE OF VERMONT AND
NEW HAMPSHIRE, INC.
MASCOMA HOME HEALTH SERVICES BRANCH
REPORT TO THE TOWN OF DORCHESTER**

Your Visiting Nurse Alliance services are like your police and fire departments. We are a vital part of your community safety net -- with services that must be continuously available for you or anyone else who might need them -- and the need can vary dramatically from year to year.

- * Town funds enable your family, friends and neighbors to remain at home and to receive skilled clinical services during times of injury, recovery from surgery or accidents, disability, short-term and chronic illness. Town funds provide support and symptom control during terminal illness, community wellness and important assistance to families at risk.
- * Town funds help provide a comprehensive range of necessary care (determined by hospital discharge planners and attending physicians) for persons of all ages and economic backgrounds including those who are unable to pay or who do not have adequate health insurance.

The Visiting Nurse Alliance of Vermont and New Hampshire, Inc. provided the following services in the **Town of Dorchester** this past year.

Visits (July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002)

Skilled Nursing.....	82	<i>Family Support Services</i>	
Physical Therapy.....	68	Families served.....	3
Speech Therapy.....	79	Individuals served.....	12
Medical Social Worker.....	4	Home Visits.....	15
Home Health Aide.....	250		
Homemaker.....	68	<i>Maternal and Child Health</i>	
Hospice and Private Duty.....	52	Children.....	3
TOTAL VISITS.....	603	Home Visits.....	20
		<i>WIC (Women, Infants, children)</i>	
<i>Hospice VNH Volunteers</i>		Clients.....	5
Patient/Families Served.....	1	Clinic Visits.....	17

VOICES AGAINST VIOLENCE

**P.O. Box 53
258 Highland Street
Plymouth, N.H. 03264
Crises Line (603) 536-1659
Office: (603) 536-3423**

During fiscal year 2002, Voices Against Violence continued to provide the following direct services to victims of domestic and sexual violence:

- * 24-hour crisis line;
- * confidential emergency shelter and food for women and their children fleeing domestic violence;
- * emergency transportation;
- * hospital accompaniment;
- * court, social service, and housing advocacy;
- * support groups;
- * education programs for area schools on topics such as bullying and teasing, healthy relationships, dating violence;
- * education and outreach programs for community agencies.

During that period, Voices and 1,980 contacts with 339 clients; 132 of these clients contacted us via the crisis line. Twenty women and their 17 children were sheltered a total of 1,810 bed nights.

In fiscal year 2002, the Education Coordinator made a total of 41 presentations in schools attended by 1,481 children in grades 1-12. Topics were age appropriate and included Bullying & Teasing, Harassment, and Healthy Relationships. Twenty-one presentations attended by 417 people were made to community organizations such as local police, town employees, health care professionals, college students, and churches.

SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL

Grafton County

P.O. Box 433

Lebanon, NH 03766-0433

2002 ANNUAL REPORT

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. is a private nonprofit organization that provides programs and services to support the health and well being of our older citizens. The Council's programs enable elderly individuals to remain independent in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

The Council operates eight senior centers in Plymouth, Littleton, Canaan, Lebanon, Bristol, Orford, Haverhill and Lincoln and also sponsors the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of the Upper Valley and White Mountains (RSVP). Through the centers and RSVP, older adults and their families take part in a range of community-based long-term services including home delivered meals, congregate dining programs, transportation, adult day care, chore/home repair services, recreational and educational programs, and volunteer opportunities.

During 2002, **21** older residents of Dorchester were served by one or more of the Council's programs offered through the Plymouth Regional Senior Center or the Mascoma Area Senior Center:

- * Older adults from Dorchester enjoyed **735** balanced meals in the company of friends in the center's dining room.
- * They received **231** hot, nourishing meals delivered to their homes by caring volunteers.
- * Dorchester residents were transported to health care providers or other community resources on **232** occasions by our lift-equipped buses.
- * They received assistance with problems, crises or issues of long-term care through **32** visits by a trained social worker.
- * Dorchester's citizens also volunteered to put their talents and skills to work for a better community through **827** hours of volunteer service

The cost to provide Council services for Dorchester residents in 2001 was **\$8,596.00.**

Such services can be critical to elderly individuals who want to remain in their own homes and out of institutional care in spite of chronic health problems and increasing physical frailty, saving tax dollars which would otherwise be expended for nursing home care. They also contribute to a higher quality of life for our older friends and neighbors. As our population grows older, supportive services such as those offered by the Council become even more critical.

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council very much appreciates Dorchester's support for our programs that enhance the independence and dignity of older citizens and enable them to meet the challenges of aging in the security and comfort of their own communities and homes.

Carol W. Dustin, Executive Director

***Mascoma Area Senior Center
P.O. Box 210
Canaan, NH 03741
523-4333***

***Plymouth Regional Senior Center
P.O. Box 478
Plymouth, NH 03264
536-1204***

UPPER VALLEY LAKE SUNAPEE REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION 2002 ANNUAL REPORT

The UVLSRPC is a nonprofit, voluntary association of 30 communities in Vermont and New Hampshire. Our service area is based on clusters of communities united by a long history of employment, transportation and education connections, as well as by other issues of common concern. We serve the Upper Valley, Sullivan County, and the towns of the Lake Sunapee area. Each year we strive to focus on activities that will best meet the needs of each of these three areas, while we balance the differing concerns of larger and smaller communities. Your community's membership in UVLSRPC provides you with a voice in both regional and statewide decision-making that affects the future of your community.

We provide the communities of the region with a mechanism to work together toward balanced growth, in part by developing and implementing a comprehensive regional plan. In 2002, we began an update of the UVLSRPC Regional Plan, incorporating and responding to what we have learned from 2002 Census data and the Upper Valley Housing Needs Analysis. Among other activities, we:

- * Worked with area organizations and businesses to increase awareness of the serious housing shortage in the Upper Valley, and worked with communities to address the problem.
- * Helped several communities obtain grant funds for a variety of projects, including planning for economic development, protection of watersheds, wildlife habitat, scenic resources and agricultural land, and building visitor facilities and bikepaths.
- * Continued work on the East-Central Vermont Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy in partnership with Green Mountain Economic Development Corporation to ensure business growth meets the needs of our communities; helped launch the Eastern Vermont Gateway Regional Marketing Organization to support tourism in the Upper Valley; explored a possible new partnership with the North Country Economic Development District for Grafton County communities, and provided guidance to the Sullivan County Economic Development Council on organizational issues.
- * Assisted 11 communities with updates of their master plans and 10 with local land use regulations.

- * Utilized special-purpose grants to develop a plan for Hartford's Route 5 South corridor that balances resource protection and industrial development goals; for Hartland's Three Corners area that improves the safety of the pedestrian and bicycle circulation; and for the areas surrounding Hartland's Interstate 91 interchange to maintain scenic vistas while facilitating appropriate development.
- * Continued our assistance to watershed organizations planning for the stewardship of the Connecticut River and its tributaries, including the Mascoma River, Lull's Brook, Cold River and Sugar River.
- * Organized four hazardous waste collections that gave 805 households a way to keep approximately 9,000 gallons of hazardous chemicals out of the region's groundwater.
- * Completed hazard mitigation plans in Lebanon and Enfield, and arranged funding to complete six more in the coming year, as well as integrate those in the core upper Valley communities; and began readdressing in Claremont to improve emergency response.
- * Participated in the review of several proposed developments with potential regional impacts including several telecommunications towers in our Connecticut River Valley communities, the new visitors' center and Vermont Institute for Natural Science museum at Quechee Gorge, the expansion of the Mt. Sunapee ski area, and a proposed new boat ramp on Lake Sunapee.
- * Collected traffic data in 20 communities, and mapped new roads in 14 communities to qualify for state aid for maintenance.
- * Continued to work with public transit providers serving the area's residents, employees, and visitors to identify opportunities to improve service using currently available funds, and to prioritize needs for additional funding.
- * Provided monthly circuit rider services to five communities to review subdivision and site plan applications for compliance with local regulations.
- * Held 12 training sessions for local officials on land use regulations, natural resource protection, and the National Flood Insurance Program.
- * Continued to increase the ability of our geographic information system (GIS) to perform land use analysis and natural resource planning; provided GIS services to 21 communities and partner organizations.

- * Responded to day-to-day requests from local board members and staff for guidance on many issues, including: improvements for roads and intersections, unmaintained road policies, management of excavations, preservation of historic resources, future school enrollment projections, capital improvement programming and impact fees, interpretation of local land use regulations, hiring consultants, and planning and zoning board procedures.
- * Maintained a library with the latest technical guidance, planning literature, and sample regulations; incorporated 2000 Census information into a new digital regional socioeconomic profile as it became available; and responded to numerous requests for information from local officials, businesses, and other area organizations.

We appreciate the high level of participation and support we receive from our communities, and look forward to continuing to serve the needs of the region in the coming years. We count on feedback from the Commissioners appointed by each community, and from local officials and residents, to ensure that our work program focuses on regional issues that are of the highest priority to you. Please feel free to contact us at (603) 448-1680 or info@uvlsrpc.org to share your thoughts.

Tara E. Bamford
Executive Director

REPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF DISTRICT ONE

by

**RAYMOND S. BURTON, COUNCILOR
DISTRICT ONE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

**ROOM 207
STATE HOUSE
CONCORD, NH 03301
Tel. 603-271-3632
rburton4@gte.net**

A new era is underway in the Executive Branch of your NH State Government, headed by Governor Craig Benson. I envision that his administration will be bringing new and innovative ideas of a modernized New Hampshire State Government by utilizing tools of the new age of technology. This will bring enhanced services to the citizens and users of NH State Government. Through the many checks and balances of power at the State Capitol, Governor Benson will not go too slow or too fast.

I encourage citizens to contact Governor Benson and offer to serve on a Board or Commission. Each biennium more than 300 citizens are appointed to these public Boards. The address is : State House, 107 North Main St., Concord, NH 03301. The phone number is: 603 271-2121. A new administration is in Concord. Let's make very sure our region is a part of the Benson era of New Hampshire! For a listing of the Boards and Commissions under the authority of the Governor and Council, please visit the Secretary of State Web site at: <http://webster.state.nh.us/sos/> or call my office at 271-3632.

As Councilor, I will be conducting official tours with Commissioners and Directors of State Agencies all summer and fall of 2003. If you have a special event or project you would like a certain agency to visit or focus on, please let me know.

As Councilor, I will be holding official summer 2003 hearings on proposed changes to the NH Ten Year Highway Plan. All Town, Counties and Cities will be notified of this schedule of public hearings in your region. Please utilize your regional Planning Commission as a starting point for your

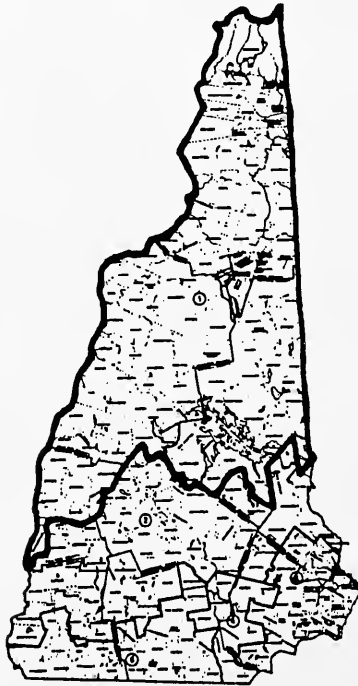
transportation ideas and concerns. For detailed information on the Ten Year Highway Plan visit the Department of Transportation web site: <http://webster.state.nh.us/dot/>

All citizens and public agencies should contact our NH Congressional Delegation and ask for more support from Washington, DC. New Hampshire ranks near the bottom of the list in monies returned back from the Federal budget.

For every dollar of taxation we send to Washington we get back **ONLY 71 CENTS!!** Let's send many lists to Senators Gregg and Sununu, and Congressmen Bass and Bradley and give them a chance to do better!

Please keep in touch with my office. I am at your service.

Sincerely yours,
Raymond S. Burton
Executive Councilor



UNH COOPERATIVE EXTENSION GRAFTON COUNTY 2002 ANNUAL REPORT

UNH Cooperative Extension provides New Hampshire citizens with research-based education and information, enhancing their ability to make informed decisions that strengthen youth, families and communities, sustain natural resources, and improve the economy.

Funded through the federal, state and county governments, and competitive grants, UNH Cooperative Extension educational programs are designed to respond to the local needs of citizens through direction and support of an elected volunteer advisory council. Each of the state's ten counties supports an Extension office.

Extension Staff: Tom Buob, Agricultural Resources; Ginny DiFrancesco, Walter Quality; Kathleen Jablonski, 4-H Youth Development; Michal Lunak, Dairy Specialist; Deborah Maes, Family & Community Development; Northam Parr, Forest & Wildlife Resources; Robin Peters, Nutrition Connections; and Jacqueline Poulton, Leap program. Educators are supported by Donna Mitton, Kristina Vaughan and Sharon Youngman.

New or enhanced efforts during FY01 (October 2001 Through September 2002) include:

- * "Nutrition Connections" programs enrolled 164 low-income family members in programs to modify diet and food preparation, skills and behavior and improve nutritional health. "Nutrition Connections" collaborated with and marketed programs through over 60 agencies, health clinics, schools, welfare offices and shelters.
- * 4-H Leader Training for volunteers were held in gardening, public speaking, and water resources education. There are 102 active leaders in 4-H, including 16 new volunteers. 470 County youth participated in 4-H activities. There are currently 32 active clubs. Three Grafton County 4-H'ers received college scholarships/awards from local funds established for that purpose.
- * Food safety certification programs were held in 8 communities, for food handling staff of nursing homes, schools, hospitals, senior centers and restaurants. About 70 participants passed the National SERVSAFE exam as a result. A Community Profile was held in Canaan. Land Conservation and Protection Workshops were held in Sugar Hill and Rumney.

- ★ The LEAP program (Lifeskills for Employment, Achievement and Purpose) successfully "graduated" eleven participants; seven have obtained full-time employment, three have earned GEDs, two have completed CNA training, and six have enrolled their children in State Licensed Child Care.
- ★ Thirty-eight Farm-Family participants completed Ag-Business courses in North Haverhill, a cooperative program with UVM that improves financial planning, accounting and management. More than 100 producers attended a West Lebanon conference on Dairy Management Practices with a focus on financial management and profitability. Also in West Lebanon, the New England Dairy Feed Conference focused on forage production and management.
- ★ Current Use tax program information and assistance-including revised Forestland Stewardship criteria -- was provided to communities, assessing officials and landowners through public meetings and direct consultation, to help keep this open-space incentive strong. Extension referrals to private sector licensed foresters resulted in new management plans on 15,000 acres, erosion control on 10 miles of roads and trails, and improved timber harvesting practices. The 15th Annual Grafton County Conservation Field Days at the County Farm taught 150 5th graders and their teachers about soils, water, wildlife, farm animals, forestry and gardening, just before black fly season!
- ★ Grant-funded research projects included phosphorous and nitrogen application guidelines and vegetative buffer utility to protect water quality and farm profitability.

**UNH Grafton County Cooperative Extension Office Hours
are Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM.**

Phone: 603-787-6944 **Fax:** 603-787-2009

Email: ce.grafton@unh.edu

Mailing Address: 3785 DCH, Box 8, N. Haverhill, NH 03774-4936

PEMI-BAKER SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

2002 ANNUAL REPORT

2002 was an exciting and busy year for the District. First, the District added seven new communities. They were the towns of Easton, Franconia, Landaff, Lisbon, Littleton, Lyman and Sugar Hill giving the District a total of twenty members. The District also expanded its household hazardous waste (HHW) program, continued to collect oil-based paint and fluorescent light bulbs, while holding its first ever electronics recycling collection program.

The District continued its support of proper household hazardous waste management by coordinating five (5) one-day collection events. In the spring, the District held one collection in Plymouth and in the fall, held collections in Littleton, Plymouth, Rumney, and Campton/Thornton. Through these collections the District was able to recycle or properly dispose of over 7,000 gallons of material. Over 500 households participated in this program. The District also recycled over 20,000 feet of fluorescent light bulbs that were collected at individual transfer stations throughout the year. The District received \$8,206.45 in grant funds from the State of NH's Household Hazardous Waste Program to help offset some of the program's costs.

2002 also saw the District coordinate and sponsor its first ever electronics recycling program, with emphasis being placed on the collection of televisions and computer monitors. These two items contain a cathode ray tube (CRT), which is commonly referred to as the "picture tube". CRT's become waste management issues because they contain lead. A typical 27" TV contains 8 pounds of lead. If CRT's are disposed of in landfills and incinerators, it increases the likelihood of contaminating groundwater, surface water and air resources.

Realizing the need to offer its citizens a means to recycle televisions, computer monitors and other electronics, the District held two one-day electronics recycling collections in July, one in Littleton and the other in Plymouth. Residents were asked to pay a fee for each electronics item they brought for recycling. The total amount collected for the two days was over 15,000 pounds. It was a very successful program when compared to the results of similar programs held this past year in New Hampshire and Vermont.

In 2003, the District plans to hold HHW collections in the spring (Littleton and Campton/Thornton) and in the fall (Plymouth). It will continue to coordinate the year-round collection of oil-base paint and fluorescent

light bulbs and plans to hold electronics recycling collections again as well. The District takes very seriously the need to decrease the toxicity of our solid waste stream. Through these programs we feel we are serving the needs of our citizens while at the same time doing so in a cost effective manner. The District will continue to promote its cooperative approach to solid waste and recycling as well. Without a doubt, District communities can minimize the costs of these programs when they work together.

Citizens interested in participating in the development of the District's programs are welcome to attend the District meetings. Information regarding the place and time of the meetings is available at all municipal offices.

Respectfully submitted
R. Marsh Morgan, Jr.
PBSWD Chairman



**VITAL STATISTICS
DORCHESTER, N.H.
BIRTHS**

<u>Place</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Parents</u>
Plymouth, N.H.	10-23-02	Nikolas Alan Perreault	Monique Perreault Bruce Perreault
Lebanon, N.H.	03-21-01	Mackenzie Lin Gray	Lacy Gray Eric Gray

MARRIAGES

<u>Date</u>	<u>Groom/Bride</u>	<u>Residence</u>
10-12-02	Russell J. Lamphere Brenda L. Wanamaker	Dorchester, N.H. Dorchester, N.H.
12-14-02	Patrick J. Somers Susan A. Moreau	Dorchester, NH Dorchester, NH
03-23-02	Bjorn O. Carsson Kathleen J. Melanson	Sweden Dorchester, NH

DEATHS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Parents</u>
Arlene R. Proctor	02-02-02	Dorchester, N.H.	Jesse Pye Ruth Broderick
Herbert C. Noel	03-13-02	Dorchester, NH	Franklin Noel Beatrice Jermyn
Randy R. Zarr	11-26-02	Plymouth, NH	Paul Zarr Lillian Plisko

Summary of the Dorchester 2002 Town Meeting

The election of Town officials was held on Tuesday, March 12, 2002.
Polls opened at 11:00 a.m. and closed at 7:00 p.m.
The remaining business was conducted on Saturday, March 16, 2002.

Article 1. To choose by nonpartisan ballot all necessary Town officers for the ensuing year.

Results of election as follows:

Selectman for three (3) years - Albert John Franz - 67 votes
Moderator for two (2) years - Henry L. Melanson - 101
Treasurer for one (1) year - Brian A. Howe - 105 votes
Tax Collector for one (1) year - Delbert Pratt - 106 votes
Town Clerk for one (1) year - Brenda Howe - 107 votes
Road Agent for one (3) years - George C. Conkey, II - 59 votes
Trustee of Trust Fund for 3 years - Carol Towne - 11 votes
Auditors for 1 year - Martha L. Walker - 102 votes
Cindy Azotea - 5 votes
Cemetery Trustee for 3 years - Robert L. Brown - 4 votes
Planning Board for 3 years - David DeVall - 84 votes

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000) to be added to the capital reserve funds of the Town as follows:

Town Building Fund.....	\$2,500.00
Highway Equipment Fund.....	\$3,000.00
Bridge Fund.....	\$2,500.00
Revaluation of Property Fund...	\$10,000.00

Recommended by Selectmen

Moderator read the article. Opened for discussion.

Robert Estabrook moved the question, seconded by Andrew Houghton.

Article 2 PASSED as read

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to approve a raise in the Town Clerk's salary from seven hundred dollars (\$700.00) per year plus fees to one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) per year plus fees.

Put on the floor by Robert Estabrook, seconded by Andrew Houghton. Opened for discussion. Michael Landry spoke about considering an hourly wage in the future. Moderator moved the question.

Article 3 PASSED as read

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to approve a raise in the Road Agent's salary as follows:

1st year.....	\$27,000.00
2nd year.....	\$27,810.00
3rd year and upon reelection.....	\$28,644.00

Article read. Put on the floor by John Cote and seconded by Robert Estabrook. Brian Howe spoke in favor. Michael Landry explained need to raise salary. Richard Carter asked about need for a pickup truck. Michael Landry explained to save wear and tear on big truck. Moderator moved the article.

Request for paper ballot

39 voted 26 - YES 13 - NO

Article 4 PASSED as read

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to hire one (1) full time employee, who meets the criteria of a Level III Highway Maintainer, for the Road Department. The entire salary amount, \$20,000.00/yr. based on a 40 hr. week, will come from the Road budget.

Article read. Opened by John Cote and seconded by Robert Estabrook. John Adams felt there should be two people working together for safety reasons. Michael Landry explained need for raise in pay to attract more interest in the job. Jay Legg asked how the position would be filled if no one qualified. Andrew Houghton explained need for worker. Ron Stokowski said he had applied for the job and was told he was over qualified. He was never interviewed for the job. John Cote said the selectmen didn't do interviews. Michael Landry explained that the road agent has the power to hire or fire. Dick Carter asked if there would be interviews this time. Robert Estabrook explained that applicants should be interviewed by the road agent. John Cote explained the need for applicants to qualify and demonstrate ability to do the job. Dick Carter stated we need a P.A. system (he was having trouble hearing)

Moderator moved the question.

Article 5 PASSED as read

Article 6. To see if the voters will ratify the acceptance of a deed of land located on the southwesterly side of Cummings Pond Road, as donated to the town by Arthur and Barbara Stout, on such terms and conditions as contained within the deed.

Article read. Put on the floor by John Cote and seconded by Andrew Houghton. Brian Howe asked what is it? John Cote explained that the Town needed a turn-around big enough for the town truck to use while plowing snow. John Cote read the conditions contained in the deed. Michael Landry explained about

(Article 6 cont.)

trying in the past to get a turn-around and the Stouts agreed to donate the land. Pat Franz asked about terms and conditions? John Cote explained the land was deeded over to the town. Robert Estabrook explained the land is just big enough for the turn-around.

Moderator moved the question.

Article 6 PASSED as read

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum, not to exceed, thirty-two thousand dollars (\$32,000.00) for the purchase of a trailer and trailer package for Truck #1, and a broom and york rake to be used on a new Loader/Backhoe (to be obtained separately through a lease/purchase agreement), and to fund this appropriation by authorizing the withdrawal of that sum from the Highway Equipment and Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund.

Article read. Put on the floor by Andrew Houghton and seconded by Robert Estabrook. Open for discussion. Jay Legg asked what projects would be worked on and why they weren't on the warrant as in the past. Andrew Houghton explained that the selectmen changed the policy. There was a list of projects available in the back of the room if you wanted to take one, the moneys for these are included in the road budget for this year. Michael Landry spoke in favor of the new policy. Louis Delsart expressed need for cold patch not new equipment. Michael Landry explained that the old backhoe needs a lot of maintenance. Asked if the selectmen had estimates on repairs. Mr. Estabrook answered one estimate was \$25,078.00. Mr. Carter asked if they looked at other companies for the best deal on a backhoe. George Conkey II said they tried out 3 different machines. Mr. Estabrook said last year we spent \$3,000.00 to keep the present backhoe running. Dick Carter asked how much the new machine would cost. John Cote quoted a price of \$63,620.00. Robert Brown said we are voting on the trailer not the backhoe. Why do we need a trailer. Mr. Estabrook said it would save money, it costs over \$300.00 every time we need to move the machine. It will save on wear and tear on the backhoe. John Cote explained they were going to keep the old backhoe as a back-up. Malcolm Ray asked how many miles of road the town maintained. What about buying a used trailer. Larry Walker asked if they had checked prices from other places? John Cote said: The trailer would cost between \$11,000.00 and \$13,000.00; forks, \$2,500; Broom, \$11,550.00; York Rake, \$4,000.00. John Adams questioned if the money was in the bank. Selectmen responded yes. Louis Delsart asked why not drive the machine to work areas. Michael Howe explained that a backhoe is

(Article 7 cont.)

built to run slow not at highway speeds. Michael Landry suggested there are other uses too, for the trailer. Makes good sense to him to purchase it. Also, new technology since the eighties has improved the machines. Planned replacement makes better sense. Malcolm Ray asked how much is in Capital Reserve Fund. Paying out of the road budget isn't cost effective. John Cote responded. Jay Legg questioned if the yolk rake was rebuilt last summer? George Conkey answered yes we did. John Adams stressed good policy to have two men working together. Robert Brown agreed.

Moderator moved the question.

Article read

Moderator requested a show of hands

22 - YES 15 - NO

Article 7 PASSED as read

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two hundred thirty-seven thousand, six hundred twenty-nine dollars and seventy-eight cents (\$237,629.78)), to defray Town charges. (This excludes the amounts raised in Articles 2 and 7)

Article read and put on the floor by Andrew Houghton, seconded by John Cote. Open for discussion. John Franz asked how much surplus funds were carried over from last year. Mr. Estabrook responded.

Moderator moved the question.

Article 8 PASSED as read

Article 9. To act upon any other business that may legally come before said meeting.

Article read. Open to discussion. Moderator asked for a moment of silence in honor of Herb Noel. Mr. Houghton presented Jim Scott with a certificate of appreciation for his service to the Town. John Cote presented a certificate to Andrew Houghton for his service to the town. Mr. Estabrook presented an award to John Cote for reaching Senior Road Scholar. Linda Landry mentioned the Old Home Days committee would be looking to raise money for a gazebo or bandstand for the common.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Estabrook and seconded by Mr. Houghton.

Voted to adjourn the meeting a 11:19 a.m.

Submitted by Brenda Howe, Town Clerk of Dorchester NH

- Notes -

2003

2004

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
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OCTOBER

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NOVEMBER

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DECEMBER

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EMERGENCY NUMBERS

**IN ANY EMERGENCY,
PLEASE CALL**



911



F.A.S.T. SQUAD: 448-1212

POLICE: State Police - 1-800-525-5555
State Police - (Troop F) 271-1170
Grafton County Sheriff's Dept. - 1-800-552-0393

Dorchester Highway Department



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